

Appln No. 09/764,936
Amdt date December 13, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 14, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Office action mailed September 14, 2005. Claims 1 and 15 have been amended. Claims 4-6 were previously cancelled. Claims 1-3 and 7-15 are pending of which claim 14 has been withdrawn.

On pages 2-6 of the Office action, claims 1-3, 7-12 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,954,722. Claim 1 recites that the head of the screw and the seat of the bushing form a substantially form-locking "threadless" connection. Claim 15 recites that the screw head is connected with the seat in a "threadless" press-fit manner when the screw is completely inserted. Bono does not disclose a "threadless" connection between the head of the screw and the seat of the bushing. Accordingly, it is believed that claims 1 and 15 are not anticipated by Bono and the rejection should be withdrawn.


Claims 2-3 and 7-13 depend from claim 1. Since these claims depend from claim 1 and because they contain additional limitations further distinguishing these claims from Bono when considered as a whole, these claims are also believed to be patentable.

Filed herewith is a Request for Acknowledgment of May 3, 2004 Information Disclosure Statement. It is requested that the Examiner initial the Form PTO-1449 accompanying the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement and return it acknowledging receipt and consideration.

In view of the above, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application and the allowance of claims 1-3, 7-13 and 15.

Respectfully submitted,

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